

The Associated Press

Nebraska to Receive Funding for Domestic Violence Program

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OMAHA - Nebraska Legal Services has been awarded a \$400,000 federal grant to help victims of domestic violence.

U.S. Senator Ben Nelson said the funding comes from the U.S. Justice Department's Legal Assistance for Victims Grant program. The program supports projects that provide legal services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking.

The funding will allow the Nebraska organization to continue providing free legal advice to victims in civil matters, Nelson said.

The grant would establish the first statewide legal services domestic violence project, he said.

It is to provide essential assistance to residents in Nebraska's 90 rural counties and American Indian Reservations.

Nelson said rural residents have had difficulty assessing the legal system due to lack of attorneys with necessary expertise.

"Domestic violence continues to threaten women across our state," Nelson said. "The assistance .. is vital in helping victims to move forward and become self-sufficient."